GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SPACE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3231
ANSWERED ON:21.03.2007
TERRESTRIAL OBSERVATION SYSTEM
Badiga Shri Ramakrishna

Will the Minister of SPACE be pleased to state:

(a) the manner in which the Terrestrial Observation and Prediction System (TOPS) works for predicting the weather conditions accurately;

(b) the cost benefit ratio of TOPS;

(c) the manner in which TOPS help Andhra Pradesh;

(d) whether AP Remote Sensing application Centre has sought or approached National Remote Sensing Agency for any assistance in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER`S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN)

(a)&(b) The Terrestrial Observation and Prediction System (TOPS) is a global programme to utilize terrestrial and atmospheric data and weather models to predict weather events. Accurate prediction of severe weather events can help in disaster management and save lives and property. Quantitative cost benefit analysis has not been made.

(c) The Andhra Pradesh Secretariat Disaster Management System (APSDMS) is participating in the TOPS programme. The data from the ground stations such as automated rain gauges, weather stations and tide gauges set up under the World Bank aided project is being utilized to monitor severe weather events affecting the state of Andhra Pradesh. The project is currently being carried out in a research mode. Once made operational, the TOPS can help in effective disaster management in the State for managing drought, cyclone etc.

(d)&(e) AP Remote Sensing Applications Centre has not approached National Remote Sensing Agency for any assistance in this regard.